



Press Release
16th February 2020

Statement on Crown Prosecution Service handling of the prosecution of Ms Caroline Flack

The ManKind Initiative is the leading charity in the UK supporting male victims of domestic abuse. With respect to the above, the following statement is made:

Mark Brooks OBE, Chairman of the ManKind Initiative, said:

“We would like to pass on our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family of Caroline Flack.

“We support the CPS in pursuing any prosecution where they felt they had evidence that a crime of domestic abuse had taken place. The pursuit of any crime of domestic abuse, whether for a female or male victim, is in the public interest and is never a “show trial”.

“Given the specific nature of domestic abuse including the control, fear and isolation that a victim suffers from, the pursuit of prosecutions without the victims support is vital. The introduction of victimless prosecutions has been widely supported throughout the domestic abuse sector.

“For male victims, there is a particular fear of the public humiliation of being seen by society as being weak which prevents them from coming forward. It is vital therefore that pursuing cases without their support continues. Statistics show male victims are nearly three times less likely to tell anyone they are a victim than a female victim which shows the level of stigma that men feel.”

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Notes to Editors

1. About the ManKind Initiative

The ManKind Initiative (www.mankind.org.uk) is the leading national charity which runs a help-line providing, practical information and emotional support for male victims of domestic abuse and domestic violence. The help-line number is 01823 334244 (weekdays 10am-4pm) which relies on public donations. It also runs an accredited training course, a national conference and a national services directory.

2. Core Statistics

The Office for National Statistics report that 1.6 million women and 786,000 men were victims of domestic abuse in 2018/19 equating to a ratio of two female victims to every one male victim. One in four women and one in seven men will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime.

See Section 2 (Main Points) here:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/bulletins/domesticabuseinenglandandwalesoverview/november2019>

Nearly half of male victims fail to tell anyone they are a victim of domestic (only 51% tell anyone). They are nearly three times less likely to tell anyone than a female victim (49% as opposed to 19%). This has worsened since 2015/16 where the figures were 61% for men (88% women).

Please see for more statistics: <https://www.mankind.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/45-Key-Facts-Male-Victims-March-2019-Final-September-19-revision.pdf>

2. Media Enquiries

Journalists requiring further information please contact Mark Brooks on 07834 452357 chairman@mankind.org.uk.

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